

REMARKS

Summary

Claims 1-4, 6-9, 20-28, and 31 are pending. Claim 30 is cancelled and claim 1 is amended. No new matter is added.

New Claims

Claims 30-31 were added in the Amendment filed on April 6, 2007, but were not acknowledged in the Final Office Action mailed June 22, 2007. Claim 30 has been cancelled herein and incorporated substantially into claim 1. Claim 31 remains pending, and thus Applicants respectfully request that claim 31 be considered with the present response.

112 Rejection of Claims 1-4, 6-9, and 20-29

Claims 1-4, 6-9, and 20-29 are rejected over 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. To address the rejection, claim 1 has been amended herein. Support for such amendments may be found in the specification at page 1, lines 16-23, original claims 1 and 3, and Figures 1 and 2.

In claim 1, there is provided an enzyme-containing membrane system adhering to and surrounding a sensing region of the electrochemically active surface to form an active sensing region.

Applicants respectfully assert that the claims are enabled by the specification and drawings.

The Office Action suggests that claim 1 requires the membrane to surround all sides and ends of the active surface, including the top portion (upper end) represented in Figure 2. The claim does not state such a requirement.

As indicated in the application, an active sensing region is provided by the presence of both the electrochemically active surface and the surrounding enzyme-containing membrane system. Thus, as provided in claim 1, a portion of the

electrochemically active surface defines a sensing region to which the membrane system adheres and surrounds to form an active sensing region. The electrochemically active surface thus cannot provide an active sensing region unless it is surrounded by the enzyme-containing membrane system. The specification and Figure 2 support this language, and claim 1 is thus clearly enabled.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-4, 6-9, 20-28, and 31 are in condition for allowance, and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (503) 796-2844. Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 500393.

Respectfully submitted,
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